

Minutes for the ABAC meeting of August 20, 2014

Board members attending were Ron Sender, Jack Johnson, Doug Greenfield and Christopher Tonkin. Joey Glushko was also present, along with Ted Packard and Anke Schaeffer representing QuadCycles.

\*Approval of the minutes of the June meeting.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved, as amended, by unanimous vote.

Bikeway Memorial for Bobby Mac

Anke Schaeffer and Ted Packard of QuadCycles described a memorial they would like to see placed along the bikeway to honor Robert McMurray aka Bobby Mac. As a long time Arlington resident and bike path enthusiast, the Minuteman Bikeway would be an ideal place to put a memorial. This would most likely be a boulder with a brass plaque. Jack suggested that it should be in a place with enough space for groups to gather and that near an existing bench would be ideal. He also mentioned that the existing right-of-way in Arlington is very narrow with much of the adjacent area under private ownership. Lexington has more space and might provide better locations.

Joey suggested Tower Park in Lexington (by the Seasons Four garden store), Depot Park in Bedford or the Bridge over the Shawsheen River on the Bedford/Lexington line. Bobby enjoyed showing people the artwork under this bridge. The committee can help them find the right contacts in Lexington and Bedford if they wish to pursue these locations. Joey also suggested a memorial (a mural or plaque on the wall or in the sidewalk) at the QuadCycles building, though that would require permission from Rustem and the building owner.

They are also looking for a venue for a post memorial ride event that is scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup>. They will look into all of this and get back to us.

Green Routes Initiative

The memo was updated to include language about trail maintenance and then sent directly to the Town Manager.

Tri-Community Meetings

Bikeway signage was discussed. Signs should have the town seal and larger lettering and agree with the Toole design. The Bedford Bicycle Committee would like to put a welcome sign near their border at the Wiggins Road crossing. Comments should be submitted to Joey. The next meeting will be Saturday October 25, 2014 at the Senior Center in Arlington on the lower level.

Fall Bicycle Event with the Medford Committee

David Fields would like to make the route longer and maybe postpone the ride to October as the current date of September 7<sup>th</sup> is very soon. Jack suggested looking at the ride's purpose (history? nature? connections?) and scope (general public? bike advocates? family ride?) to help determine the route.

Bikeway Counts

July's Saturday count was the highest we have ever had. Bikes and joggers were broken down by gender with a fairly even balance. The next proposed counts will be September 16<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

### COBWEB (Cops on Bicycles with Education for Bicyclists) Program

We will invite Community Safety officers to our September or October meeting to discuss this program as well as other safety issues such as the Lake Street Bikeway crossing. Jack suggested having the Town Manager as an impartial moderator.

### Town Day

Town Day is September 13<sup>th</sup>. Christopher has a new easel and will buy a new canopy. There will be an emphasis on safety and Joey will ask for about 50 bike helmets to give out to kids. We will also look into signing people up for September's bike counts.

### Other Topics

Jack reported that Landry's had a successful tour of Boston with various city officials meeting with bicycle advocates to talk about accommodations in various locations throughout the city.

Joey would like to have a note sent from ABAC to the Tourist and Economic Development Committee suggesting ways to make the back of the Uncle Sam tourist booth (the part seen from the bike path) more attractive.

Improved access to the path from Gold's Gym was also discussed. A stop or warning sign could be placed on the fence at the entrance and the knotweed should be cleared. Alternative access could be provided in the middle part of the lot where visibility is better. The owners will be contacted. Christopher will take pictures to survey the situation.

\*The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

\*indicates that a vote of the ABAC Board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Doug Greenfield.